

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05155 241024Z
ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 5155

EXDIS

FOR ASST SECY SAUNDERS FROM HUMMEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, CENTO, XD, US
SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE'S MEETING WITH PAKISTANI FONMIN
AGHA SHAHI MAY 25

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 5066 (B) ISLAMABAD 4980 (C) ISLAMABAD 4727

1. SEPTTEL NOW IN PREPARATION WILL REPORT MY DISCUSSION TODAY (MAY 24) WITH ACTING FONMIN SHAHNAWAZ CONCERNING AFGHANISTAN. I USED VARIOUS OFFICIAL REPORTS OF RECENT EVENTS, INDICATIONS OF FUTURE RELATIONS WITH SOVS, DATA ON NEW CABINET MEMBERS, STATEMENTS BY AFGHAN OFFICIALS, ETC. I EMPHASIZED TENTATIVE NATURE OF IMPRESSIONS AND FACT THAT I WAS USING MATERIALS FROM FIELD REPORTS RATHER THAN WASHINGTON APPRAISALS. NET EFFECT WAS TO REFLECT INCREASING SIGNS OF MARXIST POLICIES AFGHAN REGIME AND ITS CLOSE RELATIONS WITH SOVS, ALL OF WHICH SQUARES CLOSELY WITH INFO SHAHNAWAZ HAS BEEN GETTING FROM HIS EMBASSY IN KABUL.

2. SHAHNAWAZ SAID GOP IS CONTINUING TO FOLLOW CONCILIATORY LINE TOWARD NEW GOVERNMENT, DESPITE OMINOUS DRA OFFICIAL TALK OF "SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PATHANS ANVSQELUCHIS" AND OTHER SIGNS. GOP IS GOING TO BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE

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TO NEW AFGHAN REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL BOX CARS TO SPEED UP TRANSMIT SHIPMENTS OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF GOODS FROM KARACHI DOCKS TO AFGHANISTAN AND FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION OF CARGOS OF PESTICIDES FROM INDIA VIA WAGAH AND LAHORE.

3. POINT I WANT TO CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION IS THAT SHAHNAWAZ AND GOP ARE PLEASED AT APPARENT CONVERGENCE OF

OUR VIEWS AND OUR INFORMATION ABOUT DRA, IN CONTRAST TO
THEIR PREVIOUS IRRITATION AT "THIN GRUEL" OF MY BRIEFING
MAY 12 ON BASIS OF CENTO PAPER (REF C). I HOPE SECT VANCE
WILL GIVE AGHA SHAHI SOMEWHAT MORE POINTED USG VIEWS OF

DRA THAN WERE IN THAT INCREASINGLY OUTDATED CENTO PAPER,
NOW THAT WE HAVE CONSIDERABLY MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE
NEW REGIME.
HUMMEL

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